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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

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Division Director

Outgoing
C0070006
#3493
K

March 31, 2010

Dennis Ware, Controller
Plateau Mining Corporation
P.O. Box 30
Helper, Utah 84526-0030

Subject: Phase III Bond Release, Task ID# 3493, Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, C/007/0006

Dear Mr. Ware:

The Division has reviewed your application for change in postmining land use, Phase III Bond Release and permit area reduction at the Star Point Mine. The Division has determined that there are some deficiencies that must be addressed before a determination can be made that the requirements of the R645 Coal Mining Rules have been met, and an approval can be granted. Those deficiencies are listed as an attachment to this letter. Each deficiency identifies its author by that author's initials in parentheses, such that your staff can directly communicate with that individual should any questions arise relative to the preparation of Plateau Mining Corporation's response to that particular deficiency.

Approval of Phase III Bond Release for the 8-acre parcel of reclaimed disturbed area requires inspection by the Division in accordance with R645-301-880.200. A preliminary inspection is necessary prior to finalizing our technical review of the application. Please work with Kevin Lundmark to schedule the preliminary inspection once site conditions permit. Additional deficiencies may be identified after the preliminary investigation is performed. A final inspection will be required once all deficiencies have been resolved. All appropriate agencies having a jurisdiction or an interest in the area of the operations will be invited to the final inspection.



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Because of the deficiencies that have been identified, the Division is requiring modification of your application pursuant to R645-300-131.100. Please provide a response by no later than June 1, 2010.

Please call me at (801) 538-5325 or Kevin Lundmark at (801) 528-5352 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daron R. Haddock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Daron" being more prominent than the last name "Haddock".

Daron R. Haddock
Permit Supervisor

DRH/KWL/sqs
Attachment
O:\007006.STP\FINAL\WG3493\KWL_DEF3493REV.DOC

Deficiency List
Task ID# 3493
Phase III Bond Release – Star Point Mine

The members of the review team include the following individuals:

PB – Priscilla Burton (435) 673-3733
KL – Kevin Lundmark (801) 538-5352
AN - Angela Nance (801) 538-5264
JO – James Owen (801) 538-5306
IW – Ingrid Wieser (801) 538-5318

R645-301-321.100: Please update Tables 321.100a and 321.100b to include the correct acreages of vegetation and disturbed area. Please update Maps 321.100 “Disturbed Area Maps” to include the correct permit boundary and proposed postmining land use change area. (IW)

R645-301-880.120 Please make the following corrections to the public notice (KL):

- The wording of the first sentence should be revised to read “...for a reduction in the Permit Area and change in post-mining land use from wildlife to industrial for a 40-acre parcel and Phase III bond release for an 8-acre parcel associated with Permit C/007/0006.”
- The approval date in the draft Public Notice requires correction. Permit C/007/0006 was most recently renewed January 28, 2007.
- The applicant address and ownership information in the draft Public Notice does not agree with Section 100 of the MRP, please either correct the Notice or submit corrected material for Section 100 of the MRP.
- In addition to the information included in the draft, the Public Notice must contain 1) the type and amount of the bond filed and the portion sought to be released, and 2) the type and appropriate dates of reclamation work performed and a description of the results achieved as they relate to the operator’s approved reclamation plan.

Please submit copies of letters sent by the Operator to adjoining property owners, local governmental bodies, planning agencies, sewage and water treatment authorities, and water companies in the locality notifying them of the intention to seek bond release. (KL)

R645-301-521.130 Map 112.500a should be corrected as follows (KL):

- The map and legend include both (capital) “C” and (lower-case) “c” listings for “United States Government”; however, there is no description of how these entries differ. Please use either one letter or correct legend to identify how these owners differ.
- Property lines which are missing or terminate in the following areas should be added or corrected:
 - Sections 26 & 27, T 15 S, R 8 E (property line ends)
 - Sections 35 & 36, T 14 S, R 8 E (property line missing between “c” and “b”)
 - Sections 2 & 11, T 15 S, R 8 E (property line missing between “c” and “b”)
 - Section 11, T 15 S, R 8 E (property line missing between multiple “c” labels)
 - Section 14, T 15 S, R 8 E (property line missing between multiple “c” labels)

R645-301-413 Please document that the 40-acre parcel may be re-zoned by Carbon County to a category for which oil and gas exploration and production are approved uses. This documentation should be included with Exhibit 412.200a. (KL)

R645-301-413 and R645-301-731 Please identify specific measures to be taken to ensure that the change in postmining land use will not result in water pollution, including but not limited to suspended solids, from industrial activities to be performed at the 40-acre COP parcel. (KL)